

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA
Public Meeting Room B
Delta Township Administration Building
7710 West Saginaw Highway
Lansing MI 48917

TOWNSHIP BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER –

Clerk Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL –

Members Present: Treasurer Howard Pizzo, Clerk Mary Clark, and Trustees Jeff Hicks and Barb Poma

Members Absent: Supervisor Ken Fletcher and Trustees Cara Dobie and Jan Cunningham

Others Present: Assistant to the Manager Jen Roberts, Community Development Director Mark Graham

III. SET/ADJUST AGENDA –

TRUSTEE POMA MOVED TO EXCUSE SUPERVISOR FLETCHER, TRUSTEE CUNNINGHAM AND TRUSTEE DOBIE FROM THE OCTOBER 8, 2012 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING. TRUSTEE HICKS SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

TREASURER PIZZO MOVED THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. TRUSTEE POMA SUPPORTED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

V. COMMUNICATONS – None.

VI. PRESENTATIONS – None.

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT –

The fire department is teaming up with Domino's Pizza in support of fire prevention month on Wednesday, October 10th from 5-7p.m. All those who order during that time will be entered into a drawing. The winner will receive a pizza delivered by a township fire truck. Should working smoke alarms be found

in the house, the pizza will be free. The fire open house is from 6-8:30 on October 11th.

Buffalo Wild Wings is opening Saturday, October 13th at 11 a.m.

The Wellness Program has exceed expectations and participation as been great. Feedback from employees has been positive. There are numerous suggestions as well.

The sustainability committee will be re-established as part of Michigan Greener Communities. A revised set of goals has been released.

LEAP has reached out to several communities to commission public art displays. The application is due 10/31/12. There is the potential for \$10,000 to be awarded. Assistant to the Manager Roberts feels that this is a great opportunity. The Board would need to develop a policy regarding public arts prior to engaging in the opportunity available from LEAP. This will be before the Board at next Monday's meeting for action.

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORT – None.

IX. ITEMS OF DISCUSSION –

1. Westbrook Estates No.5 Open Space Agreement Discussion

Mark Graham provided a brief background on the issue and noted that numerous residents of Westbrook were present at the meeting this evening. The development began in 1987. An Open Space Agreement was entered into at that time per the Township Ordinance. Over time the open space was not utilized by single family homeowners. The homeowner's initiated removing the responsibility from the 26 single family homes to the 66 condo owners.

An Attorney opinion has been obtained on the matter of transferring the ownership responsibilities of the Open Space Agreement. The attorney raised two issues. Due to attorney/client privilege, the Westbrook residents have not been provided with the information as that would require Board action.

Trustee Hicks is appreciative of the opinion and feels the remaining members of the Board should be present for this discussion. Additionally, no formal action can be taken at Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Graham indicated that the attorney has recommended a release should be obtained by the Homeowner's Association to rights of access to be filed with the Register of Deed's office or in the alternative a ballot vote by the Homeowner's Association for a 2/3 approval.

Treasurer Pizzo questioned as to why the matter was on the Agenda when discussion was limited and no action could be taken. Clerk Clark indicated that a closed session would be required to hold conversation regarding the attorney opinion. Trustee Poma stated she would like the matter on the next agenda.

There has been one property transfer since the vote was taken two years ago. A property was foreclosed upon and now owned by a bank. The one vote would not effect the 2/3 total already received.

2. Proposed FYI 2013 Budget Discussion

Treasurer Pizzo would like to explore the potential health insurance impact on the employees. Is harm being caused to the employees? This is not just the issue of being fair. Treasurer Pizzo suggested a review of compensation benefits in total. He would like a compensation review independent of the budget process.

Clerk Clark indicated that the employee committee on health care is having their first meeting on Friday, October 12th. There will not be anything available probably until the end of October.

Trustee Hicks raised an issue regarding personal property taxes. Treasurer Pizzo confirmed he was comfortable with the Budget as presented in this regard. Trustee Hicks questioned the proposed increase to staff at the proposed 1%. Any legislative changes in personal property and health care costs will be addressed when that information is available or occurs. Future adjustments can be evaluated as needed. At this time, the Board feels the proposed budget should be approved as proposed.

Treasurer Pizzo stated that there are issues regarding the drain that has come into play with the development of Joshua's House and the maintenance and repair issues with Lansing. At this time, Lansing is requesting funding. Township staff is working on the matter. There is the question if there are additional undeveloped properties in this same circumstances.

Community Awards is October 29th. Tickets are \$25.00 at the door or \$20.00 if purchased in advance.

October 9th, tomorrow, is the last day to register to vote. Absentee ballots are available through November 5th.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Clerk Clark adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA

MARY R. CLARK, CLERK & ACTING CHAIR

KENNETH FLETCHER, SUPERVISOR

HOWARD PIZZO, ACTING CLERK

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Board Materials\Board Meetings\Minutes\October 8, 2012 Committee of the Whole
Minutes Approved: November 19, 2012